



State of Maryland

Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene/Planning Council

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor –, Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary, DHMH

MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL HYGIENE/ PL 102-321 PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

June 21, 2011

Maryland Advisory Council Members: M. Sue Diehl, Chair; Mike Finkle, Charles Reifsnider, John Scharf

Maryland Advisory Council Members Absent: Richard Blair, Jaimi L. Brown, Michele Forzley, Joshana Goga, Edwin C. Oliver, Livia Pazourek, Robert M. Pender, Vice-Chair; Anita Solomon, Anthony Swetz, Jr., Robert Turner, Sherrie Wilcox

Individuals highlighted as such are resigned members who have not yet been replaced.

PL 102-321 Council Members Present: Carol Allenza, Sarah Burns, Coordinator; Herb Cromwell, Lee Crump, Lesa Diehl, Kate Farinholt, A. Scott Gibson, Gerri Gray, Cindy Kauffman, Dan Martin, George Lipman, William Manahan, Cynthia Petion, Sarah Rhine

PL 102-321 Council Members Absent: Lynn Albizo, Terry Bohrer, Tracee Bryant, Peter Cohen, Chicquita Crawford, Catherine Drake, Vira Froehlinger, Victor Henderson, Diane Herr, Julie Jerscheid, Michael Lang, Sharon Lipford, Coordinator; Linda Raines, Sheryl Sparer, Jane Walker, Della Williams, Kathleen Ward

MHA Staff Present: Brian Hepburn, Robin Poponne, Tom Merrick, Iris Reeves

Guests and Others: Dennis McDowell, Mark Kim, Christin Whitaker, DHMH-MFP (Money Follows the Person); Gerald Beemer, Shore Behavior Health; T.E. Arthur, Cultural Competency Advisory Group (CCAG); Naomi Booker, CCAG

INTRODUCTIONS/ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair, Sue Diehl. Attendees introduced themselves and the minutes of the May 17, 2011 meeting were approved. Please note that approved minutes will be posted on MHA's Web site, www.dhmh.state.md.us/mha. The Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene's link is listed under "Resources".

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Joint Council meetings on June 21st and July 19th, 2011 will adjourn at 10:30 am due to the Planning Committee Review sessions taking place immediately after the meetings. Today, the Planning Committee will meet at MHA's Mitchell Building, first floor conference room, at 10:45 to review the draft FY 2012 State Mental Health Plan. On July 19th, the Council meeting will once again end at 10:30 and the Planning Committee will meet at 10:45 to review elements of the FY 2012 Mental Health Block Grant application.
- Mike Finkle announced that an On Our Own of Maryland event, Visionary Conversations: Spotlight on Mental Health, will take place on Tuesday, July 12th from 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm at the Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, Maryland. Daniel B. Fisher, M.D., Ph.D., Executive Director of the National Empowerment Center will deliver the keynote based on the theme of "Building Relationships and Community: Pathways to Reducing Risk". For more information, contact On Our Own of Maryland (OOOMD) at 410-646-0262 or visit oomd@earth-link.net.
- The National Block Grant Conference will take place in Washington D.C. on June 29-July 1, 2011. This conference is a combination of the Olmstead and Data Infrastructure conferences. Sarah Burns will represent the Joint Council, along with MHA staff. This year's SAMHSA Conference will focus on the introduction of the new Block Grant application for all three centers including: the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS); the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT); and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). As in the past, these conferences disseminate information on mental health services, planning and systems, as well as statistical data and technology.

THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Brian Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director of MHA, delivered the following report:

- Dr. Hepburn congratulated NAMI MD on successful NAMI Walk events in May and OOOMD on a successful 19th annual conference in June.
- MHA continues to emphasize the partnerships with other organizations and agencies to build a strong and effective behavioral health care system in the state. While co-occurring services and integrated care have been discussed for some time, systems are finally implementing steps toward the advancement of behavioral health. While a decision of a merger between MHA and ADAA has not yet been made, the two administrations are looking at common elements on functional levels, starting with data processes, to increase efficiency and effectiveness among the systems.
- In addition to organizing data sharing methodology, Health Care Reform will dictate in many cases, how technology will need to be enhanced to allow the PMHS to meet the

demands of a system that is growing rapidly. Three years ago, the PMHS served less than 99,000. Since then the number served has grown to 140,000, a 40% increase. With the full implementation of Health Care Reform, there is a potential of greater increases. MHA is exploring avenues to enhance Web-based and telemedicine technologies, among others, and will look to organizations such as the military that have models in place. CMS has approved a request to include telemedicine in the fee-for-service system, implementing this with psychiatrists only in the designated counties (professional health shortage areas) that were identified previously. The goal is to accept program applications and implement this by July 1st. Meanwhile, efforts to effectively employ mechanisms of re-directing admissions and make services available to individuals being discharged from jails and hospitals in a timely manner will continue.

In conclusion, to enhance future Director Report highlights, Dr. Hepburn encouraged members to submit questions on topics of interest to Cynthia Petion at cpetion@dnhm.state.md.us.

STATE AGENCY ACTIVITIES

Council members who represent other state agencies will be scheduled to present a short discussion of current agency activities and efforts related to mental health or behavioral health. The Council thanks Ms. Kaufman, Central Region Director for DDA, for kicking off these presentations.

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) – Cindy Kaufman

Ms. Kaufman described the eligibility criteria for receiving services through DDA and the various levels from supports-only to lower intensity level to urgent, crisis prevention, crisis resolution and day/residential services. As with individuals served in the PMHS, unavailable housing and employment are significant barriers to individuals who can live in more independent settings. Ms. Kaufman explained the difference between types of services such as resource coordination, family or individual support services, residential, and day activity programs. She expressed enthusiasm over the potential improvements that the alcohol tax allotment will bring about (including reducing the list of individuals waiting for services) and the partnering/pooling of resources with MHA, some CSAs, and other agencies in the areas of forensic services and in-home supports. **Please see Attachment #1**

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Proposal of the MHA/MHP Cultural Competence Advisory Group (CCAG) to Become a Committee of the Joint Council

During the meeting, Ms. Cynthia Petion and Chair Sue Diehl proposed that the CCAG become a part of the Joint Council, serving as a sub-committee (an additional arm of the Council) similar to the role of the Interagency Forensics Services Committee. These sub-committees meet separately from the Council but incorporate a similar membership base and report to the Council through shared representation.

The CCAG consists of a diverse group of members who assist MHA in increasing awareness of issues of cultural competence and also support cultural competence initiatives such as the consumer assessment tool, trainings, and informal guided discussion-based format presentations

that created a more receptive environment for participants to discuss issues of cultural diversity in their work places and how to better provide culturally competent services and supports to the individuals they serve. CCAG has been in existence for 14 years and is co-chaired by T.E. Arthur and Iris Reeves, MHA Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Training. The group has participated in workshops and cultural presentations around the state over the years.

A motion to incorporate the CCAG into the Joint Council will be voted upon at the July 19th meeting. If you have questions, please contact Iris Reeves at 410-402-8473.

The meeting was adjourned. The Executive Committee did not meet due to the scheduled review of the draft FY 2012 State Mental Health Plan.

Please note, that we will not hold an August meeting. The Agenda for the September 20th Council meeting will be posted on the Advisory's Council's web page, under the resources section, on MHA's Web site www.dhmh.state.md.us/mha.